DC UNIVERSE
5
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BEWARE MY POWER!
THE GREEN LANTERN
MORRISON
SHARP
OLIFF
MAROONED ON A VAMPIRE PLANET, HAL JORDAN FACES THE ULTIMATE ORDEAL OF ENDURANCE!
DARKSTAR AT ZENITH

TEEN TITANS
DEATHSTROKE
THE TERMINUS AGENDA

A 6-PART CROSSOVER EVENT

Written by
ADAM GLASS & CHRISTOPHER PRIEST

Art by
BERNARD CHANG & CARLO PAGULAYAN

MARCH
Prelude: DEATHSTROKE #41
Part 1: TEEN TITANS #28

APRIL
Part 2: DEATHSTROKE #42
Part 3: TEEN TITANS #29

MAY
Part 4: DEATHSTROKE #43
Epilogue: TEEN TITANS #30

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DC
THE GREEN LANTERN 5
MORRISON • SHARP • OLIFF

...WELCOME TO VORR.
PLANET OF VAMPIRES.
CAN'T IMAGINE WHY YOU LEFT.
PLACE STINKS TO HIGH HELL.
I'M GUESSING YOU BROUGHT ME HERE TO UNDERLINE YOUR COSMIC IMPORTANCE ONE MORE TIME, COUNTESS BELZEBETH.
THESE HERE HATE ME AND MY FAMILY, BUT DARE NOT SAY IT.
I BROUGHT YOU HERE TO ENDURE TERROR.
YOU WISH TO BE ONE OF US, A BLACKSTAR.
AHEAD LIES THE SUNKEN QUARTER.
UPON THIS DISMAL GROUND, YOU MUST PROVE YOURSELF.
HERE, BENEATH VORR'S NECRO-SUN, IS WHERE YOUR ORDEAL BEGINS.

FROM HERE TO THE CHURCH OF BLOOD ON THE FAR PERIMETER, BEFORE THE THIRTEEN CHIMES OF THE BELLS OF SAINT YORGA ARE DONE.
THERE CAN BE ONLY ONE OUTCOME...
...HAL JORDAN MUST DIE TO LIVE.
A GHOST TRAIN AS BIG AS A PLANET.
OKAY.
BLACKSTAR at ZENITH
GRANT MORRISON, WRITER
LIAM SHARP, ARTIST
STEVE OLIFF, COLORIST
TOM ORZECHOWSKI, LETTERER
LIAM SHARP & STEVE OLIFF, COVER
JOE St. PIERRE WITH STEVE FIRCHOW, VARIANT COVER
JESSICA CHEN, ASSOCIATE EDITOR
BRIAN CUNNINGHAM, EDITOR

HERE ON VORR, EVERYTHING EXISTS TO CONSUME LIFE AND LIGHT.
HERE YOU ARE PREY, NOTHING MORE.
AT EACH OF THREE CHECKPOINTS ALONG THE WAY, YOU MUST LOCATE A NEW SECTION OF YOUR BLACK-STAR MANTLE IF YOU HOPE TO SURVIVE.
BUT EACH GAIN WILL REQUIRE A SACRIFICE.
DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO BECOME A BLACKSTAR?
I'M GUESSING YOU DIDN'T READ MY WIKIPEDIA PAGE, COUNTESS.
SURE.
I'LL GIVE IT A SHOT.
HOW ABOUT TAKING THESE OFF FIRST?
WHATEVER THEY'RE MADE OF, IT'S SENDING A TINGLE RIGHT UP MY SPINE...
THINK OF THEM AS PART OF YOUR TEST.
WE'LL BE IN CONSTANT COMMUNI-CATION.
FOLLOW THE SOUND OF THE BLOOD BELLS.

BOMG BOMG
SHOW ME YOU CAN FOLLOW ORDERS-- AND PERHAPS YOU'LL LIVE.
RUN, JORDAN!
RUN FOR YOUR LIFE!
VORR IS HUNGRY!
THREE LESSONS.
THREE SACRIFICES.
THREE GIFTS.
RUN!
BOMG

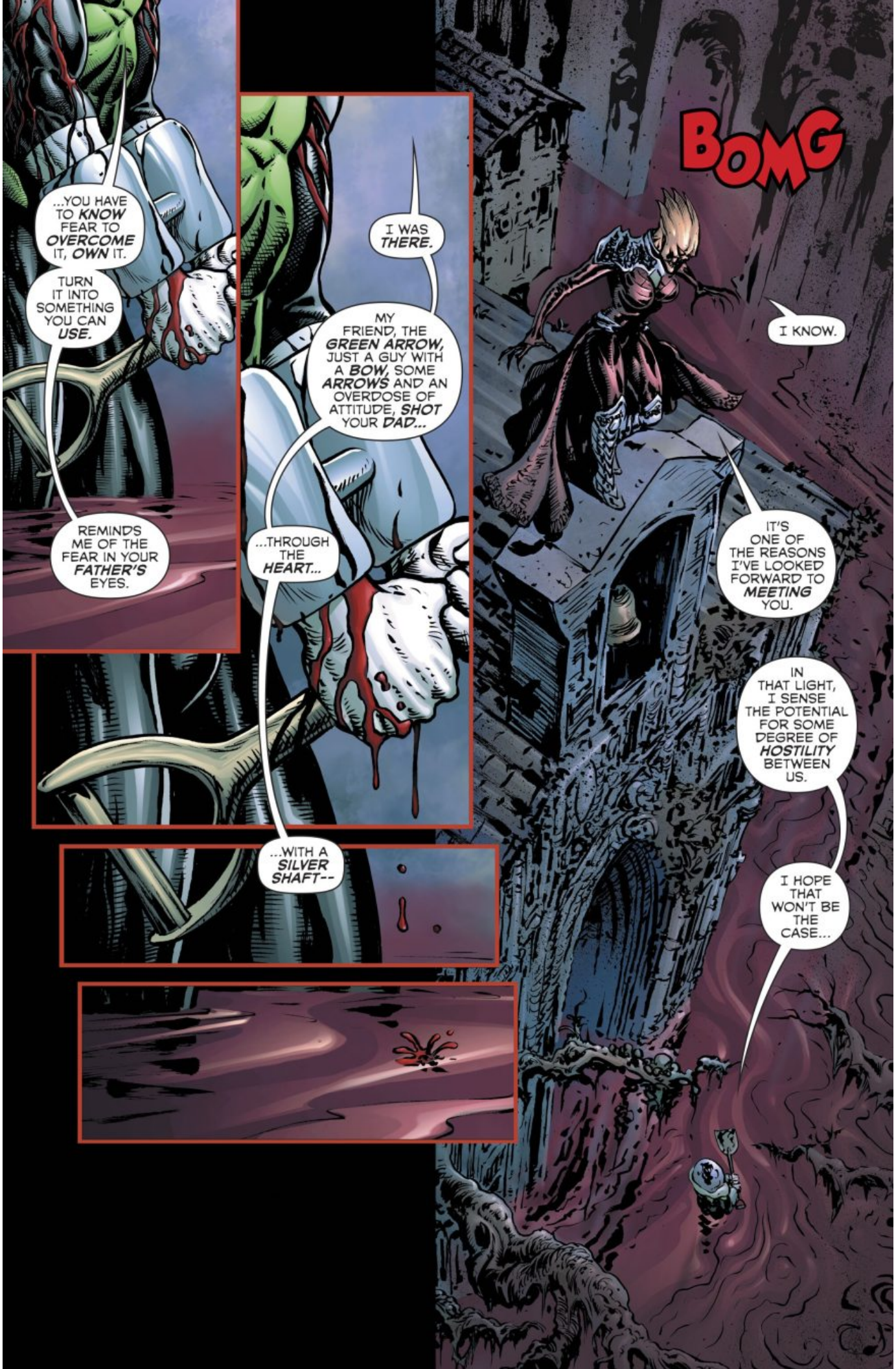
A GRAVE-YARD--
HAHA!
NOT AT ALL!
THE SUNKEN QUARTER IS A RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT.
THE BAD PART OF TOWN, YOU MIGHT SAY.
FORTUNATELY FOR YOU, THE LOCALS PREFER A SIESTA WHEN THE BLACK SUN IS OVERHEAD AT DEADNOON.
BUT TRY NOT TO ROUSE THEM.
...STINKS EVEN WORSE DOWN HERE-- ≥KAFF!≤
ROTTEN--
≥HARRFF≤
YES, THAT'S THE FIRST THING YOU MIGHT NOTICE AS YOU ENTER THE SUNKEN QUARTER--THE NOSTALGIC REEK OF THE MIASMA.
IT GETS INSIDE BEFORE YOU KNOW.
IT SPILLS ITS CORROSION INTO THE SENSE OF SELF--
--IT EATS AWAY AT CONFIDENCE AND FREE WILL.
MAN WITH NO FEAR...
...IT'S IN YOUR BEST INTEREST TO LOCATE YOUR PROTECTIVE BLACKSTAR VISOR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
FOLLOW THE BELLS, HAL JORDAN OF EARTH, FORMER GREEN LANTERN...

BOMG
THIRTEEN CHIMES AND COUNTING...
OKAY.
THE MIASMA.
≡KURRF≡
A TEST OF THE TRUE SELF.
WHEN ALL IS STRIPPED AWAY.
GREEN LANTERNS RELY ON THEIR WILLPOWER, BUT YOURS IS DISINTEGRATING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF THE MIASMA.
MAYBE, BUT I KNOW I'M WAY MORE VALUABLE TO YOU ALIVE THAN I AM DEAD OR DERANGED, SO...
...WHERE DO I FIND THIS VISOR?
HOW ABOUT A-- ≡KAFFT≡-- CLUE OR TWO?
A CLUE?
TRY LOOKING WHERE YOU SEEM LEAST INCLINED TO LOOK.
WELL?
DO YOU SEE?

INSIDE!
THAT'S DEEP-- SERIOUSLY--
...YOU'LL SEE SOME PREVIOUS RECRUITS AHEAD.
AND LIKE YOU, THEY IMAGINED THEMSELVES MORE "VALUABLE" TO US ALIVE THAN DEAD. BUT, WELL...
...VORR HUNGERS.
COUNTESS, I APPRECIATE HOW YOU'RE TRYING TO MAKE THIS MORE EXCITING FOR ME BUT...
...I'VE FOUGHT ARMIES OF THE DEAD, I'VE BEATEN DOWN GODS AND COSMIC TYRANTS.
I WAS POSSESSED BY A MONSTER CALLED PARALLAX.
I'VE LIVED, I'VE DIED, I'VE BEEN REBORN.
I'VE RELIVED MY DAD'S DEATH AND EVERY BETRAYAL A THOUSAND TIMES.
I'M A FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE JUSTICE LEAGUE OF PLANET EARTH, SO LET'S GET SERIOUS...
I DON'T DO INNER DEMONS AND I DON'T DO REGRETS.
YOUR MIASMA IS WASTING ITS TIME AND YOU ARE, TOO.
I LIVE FOR THE ADRENALINE, AND RIGHT AROUND NOW...

...I GOT SOME MONSTERS HERE NEEDING THEIR ASSES KICKED!
THAT'S IT!
my god
YOU HAVE ONLY TO GIVE UP YOUR BLIND-NESS.
THEY'RE EVERY-WHERE.
WITNESS THE WORLD AS IT TRULY IS.
BOMG
BOMG
BOMG

COPY THAT.
...YOUR BLACKSTARS.
WE TALKING ARMY, OR IS IT MORE OF A CULT THING?
SERIOUS QUESTION.
NOW I CAN SEE WHAT I'M DEALING WITH.
SAY WHAT YOU LIKE.
WE ALL KNOW FEAR.
YOU CAN SEE, PERHAPS...
...BUT WITHOUT THE BLACKSTAR GAUNTLETS...
...OR THE EXO-MANTLE...
...YOU WON'T SURVIVE.
YOU'RE RIGHT, COUNTESS-- ABOUT FEAR, THAT IS...


...YOU HAVE TO KNOW FEAR TO OVERCOME IT, OWN IT.
TURN IT INTO SOMETHING YOU CAN USE.
REMINDS ME OF THE FEAR IN YOUR FATHER'S EYES.
I WAS THERE.
MY FRIEND, THE GREEN ARROW, JUST A GUY WITH A BOW, SOME ARROWS AND AN OVERDOSE OF ATTITUDE, SHOT YOUR DAD...
...THROUGH THE HEART...
...WITH A SILVER SHAFT--
BOMG
I KNOW.
IT'S ONE OF THE REASONS I'VE LOOKED FORWARD TO MEETING YOU.
IN THAT LIGHT, I SENSE THE POTENTIAL FOR SOME DEGREE OF HOSTILITY BETWEEN US.
I HOPE THAT WON'T BE THE CASE...

YOU SENSE HOSTILITY?
NOT FROM ME.
I WANTED TO CONGRATULATE YOUR JUSTICE LEAGUE.
I HATED MY FATHER.
YOU DID OUR CLAN A FAVOR.
NOW...
...IS THERE SOMETHING OBVIOUS YOU MAY HAVE OVERLOOKED AGAIN?

WHAT WILL YOU GIVE UP?
YOUR ASSUMPTIONS PERHAPS?
I SHOULD HAVE GUESSED, RIGHT?
THESE RESTRAINTS-- THEY'RE NOT RESTRAINTS AT ALL, ARE THEY?
THAT TINGLE IN THE BACK-BRAIN IS A SIGNATURE OF THOUGHT-POWERED WEAPONRY.
HA!
RENOUNCE YOUR SHACKLES, THAT'S THE SPIRIT!
RECOGNIZE WHAT WAS THERE ALL ALONG.
THAT'S THE BLACKSTAR WAY.

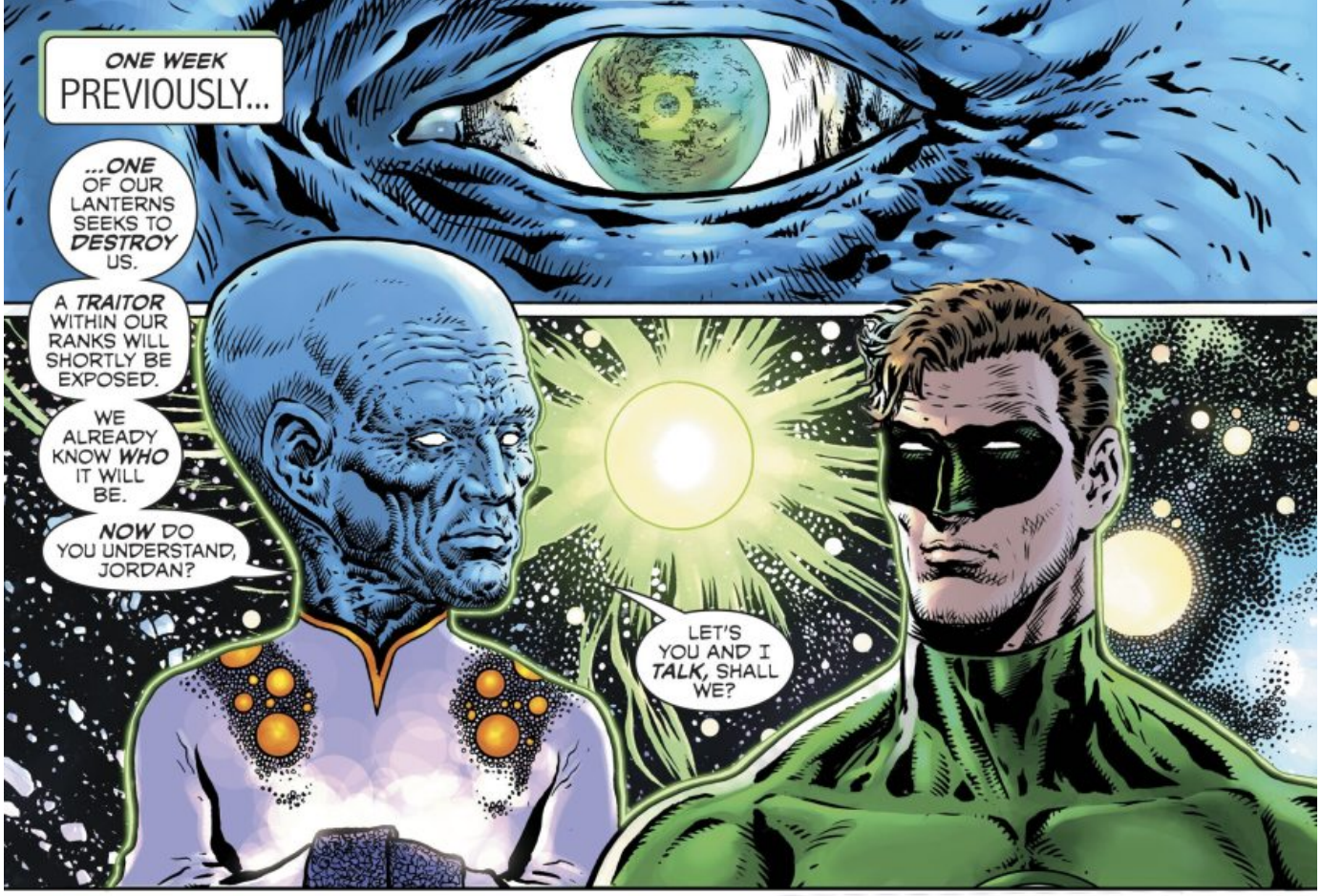
HA!
EVEN YOUR WEAKNESS CAN BE A STRENGTH.
STANDARD-ISSUE MASER SLING ON THE LEFT.
STAR-BAND GAUNTLET ON THE RIGHT.
THINK YOU CAN MASTER ITS SUBTLETIES?
THE STING OF THE GIANT MANDRAGORAX IS NEURO-TOXIC...
...YOU'RE ALREADY POISONED.
ALREADY DYING!
YEAH?
I'VE BEEN DEAD BEFORE!
HOW LONG DO I HAVE?
HOW LONG?

BOMG
BOMG
ONE LAST BELL.
I'M ALMOST THERE.
THE WATER AHEAD... BUBBLING...
YOU!
YOU THINK YOU CAN JUST CREEP IN HERE AND BRING HAVOC?
THESE ARE PEOPLE'S HOMES.
THIS IS OUR NEIGHBOR-HOOD.
huuuissss
TAKE IT UP WITH YOUR COUNTESS.
SHE PITCHED THIS PLACE AS A GAUNTLET OF DEATH BUT SO FAR, TRIP ADVISOR, I'D SAY WHAT IT LACKS IN HOSPITALITY IT MAKES UP FOR IN CHARACTER.
AND AT LEAST YOU HAVEN'T THREATENED TO EAT ME YET.

I DESPISE FOREIGN FOOD.
BRIDES!
SUMMON THE WATCH-MAGGOT!
AH, C'MON!
DOWN, BOY!
BOMG
KRUFFTH!
BLACKSTARS ARE COLLECTIVE.
WE MOVE AS ONE.
WE STRIKE AS ONE.
WE JOIN TOGETHER AND ARE UNBEATABLE.
LIKE THE OMNIPHAGE OF THE SUNKEN QUARTER. THE WATCH-MAGGOT.
BEWARE, JORDAN...

...IT HUNGERS!
BUT THE EXOMANTLE IS NEARBY, THAT FINAL PRIZE.
EQUIPPED WITH A FORCE FIELD--FLIGHT CAPACITY STRENGTH-SQUARED--TELEPORT CAPABILITY!
ONLY ITS FIRE-POWER, ONLY ITS PROTECTIVE CAPABILITIES CAN SAVE YOU NOW.
CAN YOU SEE IT AHEAD, SHINING IN THE DARK?
SO CLOSE!
THE ONLY PROBLEM IS--
--I'M WEARING IT.
WILL YOU FIGHT ME TO THE DEATH TO SAVE YOURSELF?

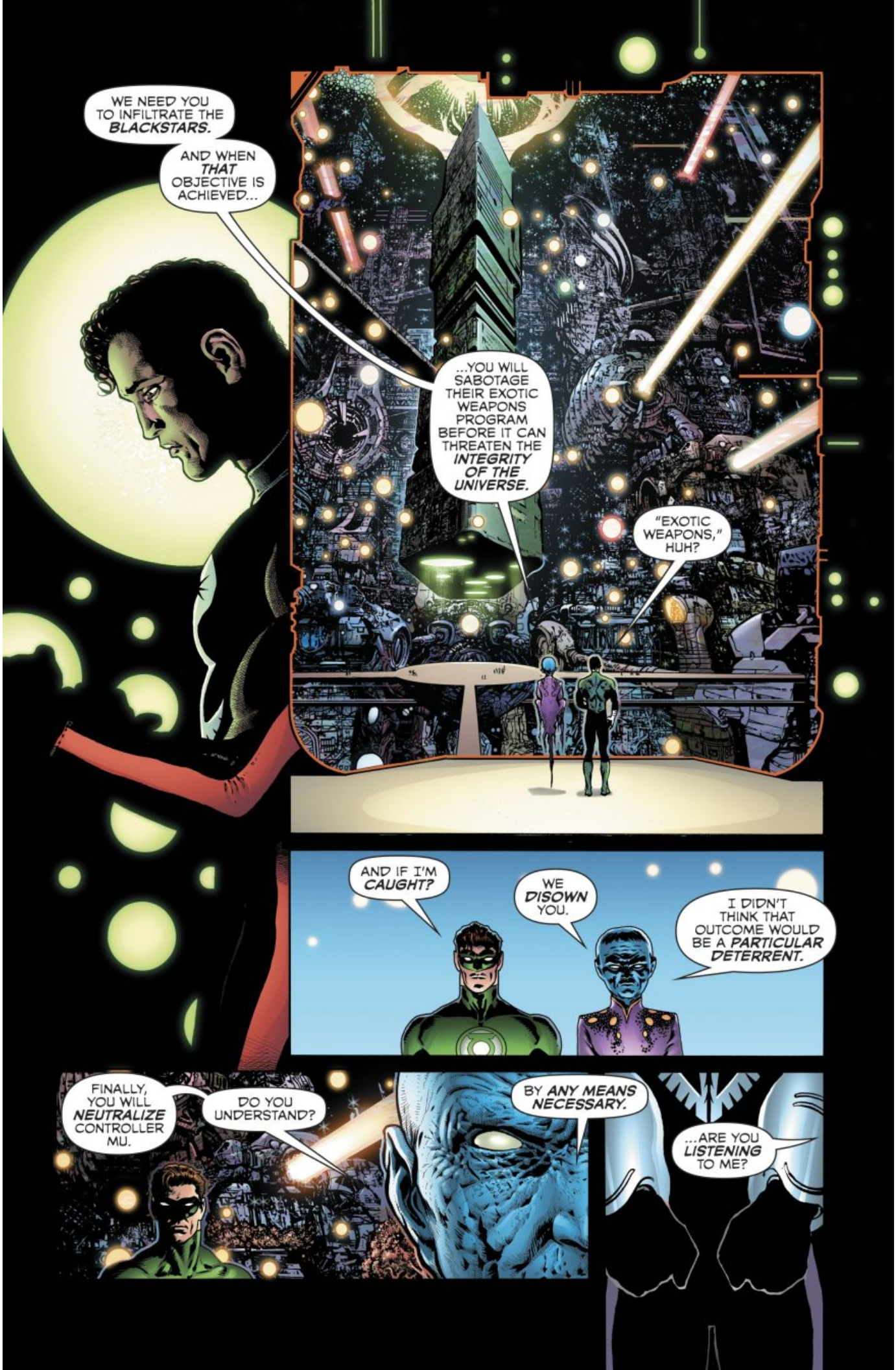
BOMG
WHAT WILL YOU DO, JORDAN?
YOU SAID IT--I'M DYING... BUT YOU BROUGHT THE CURE.
BLACKSTARS--WE STICK TOGETHER--RIGHT?
I--I CAN'T DO THIS ON MY OWN.
THEN WHAT DO YOU HAVE?
WHEN YOU HAVE NOTHING ELSE?
NO HOPE, NO WAY OUT.
BOMG
...YOU HAVE THE SUPPORT AND PROTECTION OF YOUR BLACKSTAR COMRADES.
WE NEEDED TO BE SURE YOU COULD SACRIFICE YOUR CONSIDERABLE EGO, AND SURRENDER TO THE COLLECTIVE.
SO, I'M A BLACKSTAR NOW?
I PASS?
GIMME THE DAMN ANTIDOTE!


ONE WEEK PREVIOUSLY...
...ONE OF OUR LANTERNS SEEKS TO DESTROY US.
A TRAITOR WITHIN OUR RANKS WILL SHORTLY BE EXPOSED.
WE ALREADY KNOW WHO IT WILL BE.
NOW DO YOU UNDERSTAND, JORDAN?
LET'S YOU AND I TALK, SHALL WE?

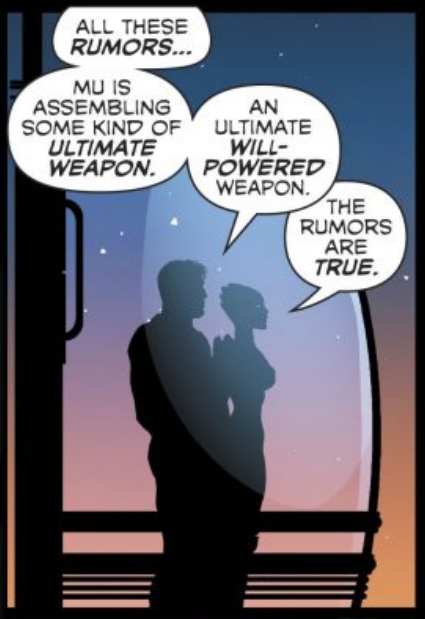
I'M ALL EARS.
WHO DO YOU HAVE IN MIND?
YOU KNOW WHO THE TRAITOR IS?
WHY, IT'S YOU, HAL JORDAN.
WHAT ELSE DID YOU THINK I WAS GOING TO SAY?

OR AT ANY RATE, THAT'S WHAT WE WANT EVERYONE TO BELIEVE, INCLUDING YOUR FELLOW LANTERNS.
THERE IS A BLACKSTAR INFORMANT AMONG US.
YOU WILL HELP US EXPOSE THIS DOUBLE AGENT.

KNOWING HOW MUCH YOU ENJOY DOING SO ALREADY, JORDAN...
...YOU'LL BE REQUIRED TO FEIGN INCREASING DISSATISFACTION WITH OUR METHODS.
WE'LL EXPECT YOU TO FLAUNT OUR RULES, EVEN TO KILL WITHOUT SANCTION.


WE NEED YOU TO INFILTRATE THE BLACKSTARS.
AND WHEN THAT OBJECTIVE IS ACHIEVED...
...YOU WILL SABOTAGE THEIR EXOTIC WEAPONS PROGRAM BEFORE IT CAN THREATEN THE INTEGRITY OF THE UNIVERSE.
"EXOTIC WEAPONS," HUH?
AND IF I'M CAUGHT?
WE DISOWN YOU.
I DIDN'T THINK THAT OUTCOME WOULD BE A PARTICULAR DETERRENT.
FINALLY, YOU WILL NEUTRALIZE CONTROLLER MU.
DO YOU UNDERSTAND?
BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY.
...ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?

PLANET RANN. NOW.
HOW DOES IT FEEL?
A LITTLE SNUG, TO BE FRANK.
"SNUG" AS IN CASTING DOUBT ON MY ABILITY TO SOMEDAY FATHER A CHILD.
CONSIDER YOURSELF A CELIBATE KNIGHT OF O.M.E.N.
OVER-MASTER'S EXECUTIVE NETWORK.
CONTROLLER MU'S ELITE GUARD.
CELIBATE?
WHAT?
I'M JOKING WITH YOU.
HAL JORDAN DIED TO LIVE ON VORR.
CHOOSE A REBIRTH NAME, A BLACKSTAR NAME.
THAT'S EASY.
PARALLAX.
CALL ME BLACKSTAR PARALLAX.



YOU COULD HAVE LEFT ME TO DIE ON VORR.

INSTEAD WE'RE ON RANN.

IT'S YOUR CALL...

RANN IS AN INTERSTELLAR TRADE HUB, IDEAL FOR OUR PURPOSES.

BUT THIS PLANET HAS A SELF-STYLED SUPER POLICEMAN OF ITS OWN, OF COURSE. A HUMAN NAMED ADAM STRANGE.

A MAN WHO SPENDS HIS LIFE FIGHTING MONSTERS AND SEES THEM EVERYWHERE.

THE PAST MUST BE CLEARED TO MAKE WAY FOR THE FUTURE.

OUR ENEMIES ARE YOUR ENEMIES, BLACKSTAR PARALLAX.

CONTROLLER MU REQUIRES THIS FINAL TEST BEFORE HE WILL MEET WITH YOU.

HAL?
THANK GOD YOU'RE HERE-- I--I--
HAL?
WELL, BLACKSTAR?
PROVE YOUR LOYALTY.
KILL ADAM STRANGE!
next: UNDER STRANGE SKIES!

BEWARE MY POWER!

THE GREEN LANTERN

"An exciting new start that highlights how well Sharp and Oliff match Morrison's voice."
—A.V. CLUB

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GRANT MORRISON • LIAM SHARP

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An interview with SUPER SONS: THE POLARSHIELD PROJECT author

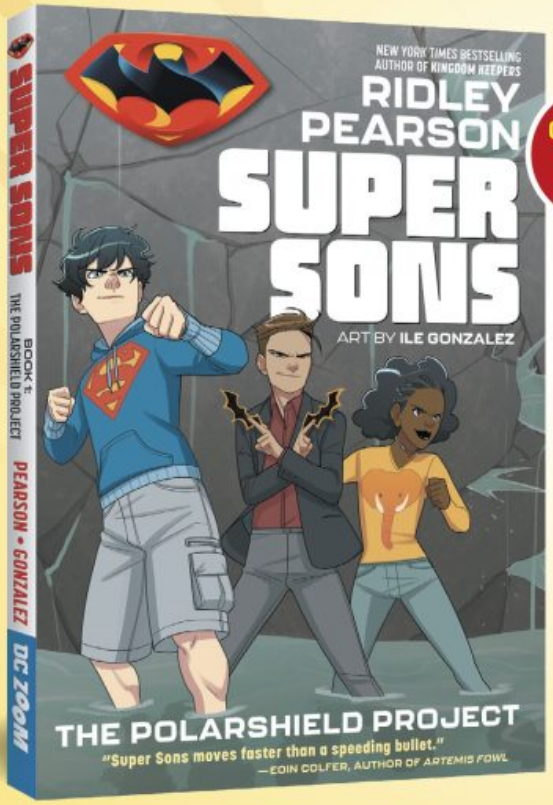
RIDLEY PEARSON

Edgar nominee and Fulbright Fellow Ridley Pearson is a #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of more than 50 award-winning suspense and young adult adventure novels.

TELL US ABOUT *SUPER SONS: THE POLARSHIELD PROJECT.*

What happens when you're in middle school and you wake up one morning to realize your father is not just a great guy, he's Superman...or Batman? In SUPER SONS: THE POLARSHIELD PROJECT, the first installment of a multi-part series, this is the emotionally confusing world in which Jon Kent and Ian Wayne find themselves. The physical world they inhabit is coming of age: global climate disruption is creating waist-deep flooding in the city and refugees are on the move. Millions are relocating from Metropolis and Gotham and crowding inland. The country of the Freeland is in chaos.

The levies built by Wayne Enterprises protecting the coastal cities have failed. An angry mob has set Bruce Wayne's headquarters on fire. Superman is off-planet and Lois Lane, Jon's mother, has been the target of a biochemical assassination attempt. The young boys must work together to save the city and their families.



ON SALE 4/2

HOW DID THIS STORY DEVELOP? WHY THESE SUPER SONS?

DC gave me free rein to develop a new Super Sons world. I was to start from scratch and find a way to work multiple plot lines for a middle-grade readership, unbound by previous Super Sons history. I focused on character first, defining character arcs for Ian, Jon and Candace, for each book, and for the series writ large.

HOW DOES WRITING A GRAPHIC NOVEL DIFFER FROM WRITING A NOVEL?

Writing graphic novels is TRICKY! This was a first for me, and a major reason for my interest in the project. A graphic novel is written as a script–a convention I enjoy writing. My DC editors gave me a crash course in effective writing. I read a dozen graphic novels, taking notes throughout, and threw myself into it. With SUPER SONS, I'm partnering with the artist Ile Gonzalez. Ile is the one "telling" the story with her panels. She works from and amplifies material I provide her. It is so magical to write and write and then see your words come alive under a skilled and creative hand. My role is akin to the director, Ile's, the cinematographer.

DC COMICS BOB HARRAS Senior VP – Editor-in-Chief, DC Comics PAT McCALLUM Executive Editor, DC Comics DAN DiDIO Publisher JIM LEE Publisher & Chief Creative Officer AMIT DESAI Executive VP – Business & Marketing Strategy, Direct to Consumer & Global Franchise Management BOBBIE CHASE VP & Executive Editor, Young Reader & Talent Development MARK CHIARELLO Senior VP – Art, Design & Collected Editions JOHN CUNNINGHAM Senior VP – Sales & Trade Marketing BRIAR DARDEN VP – Business Affairs ANNE DePIES Senior VP – Business Strategy, Finance & Administration DON FALLETTI VP – Manufacturing Operations LAWRENCE GANEM VP – Editorial Administration & Talent Relations ALISON GILL Senior VP – Manufacturing & Operations JASON GREENBERG VP – Business Strategy & Finance HANK KANALZ Senior VP – Editorial Strategy & Administration JAY KOGAN Senior VP – Legal Affairs NICK J. NAPOLITANO VP – Manufacturing Administration LISETTE OSTERLOH VP – Digital Marketing & Events EDDIE SCANNELL VP – Consumer Marketing COURTNEY SIMMONS Senior VP – Publicity & Communications JIM (SKI) SOKOLOWSKI VP – Comic Book Specialty Sales & Trade Marketing NANCY SPEARS VP – Mass, Book, Digital Sales & Trade Marketing MICHELE R. WELLS VP – Content Strategy

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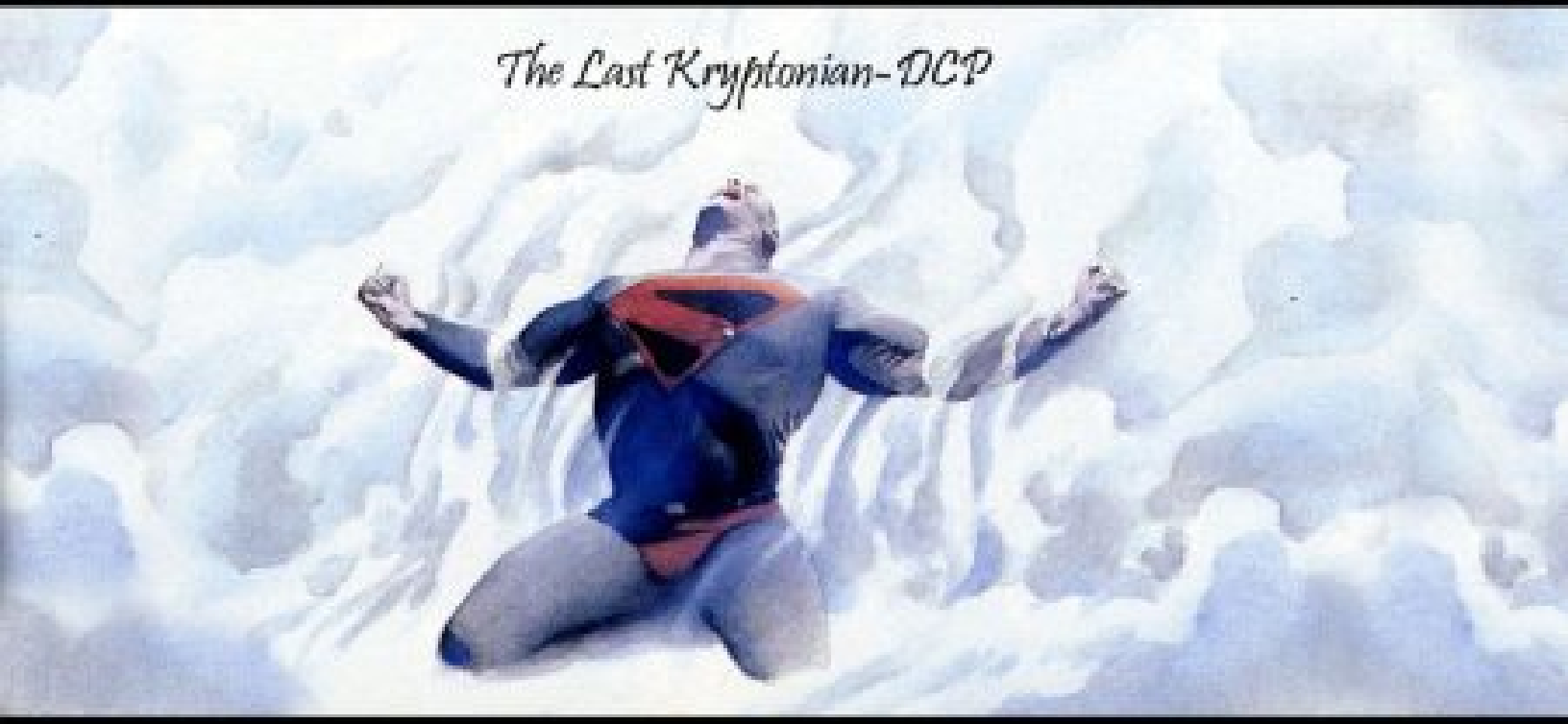
The Last Kryptonian-DCP